

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Maggie Lee Hayes
Supt

Minutes of the Sixty-Third Annual Session

OF THE

PILGRIM REST
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

SAREPTA CHURCH,

Green County, Alabama.

HELD ON

Friday and Saturday before the First Sunday in
October, 1899.

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Printing House of M. L. Tucker, Tuscaloosa.



FIRST DAY.

1. Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Carver; from Genesis.
2. The Association met and organized by calling and enrolling the names of the churches. Prayer by the Moderator.
3. Liberty—J. R. Strickland, Green Carver and Elder M. C. Hollingsworth.
Oak Grove—A. D. Massingill.
Pilgrim Rest—J. N. Blanton, and A. B. Coleman.
Salem—G. L. Hollingsworth and Jodie Buckhalter.
Sarepta—William Jones, J. Scarbrough and L. E. Jones.
Mt. Pleasant—Elder J. C. Nabors and N. Canterbury.
Bethany—Alfred Jones.
Cottondale—By Letter and Contribution.
4. Proceeded to elect moderator and Clerk—Elder J. C. Nabors was elected Moderator and F. J. Goodman Clerk.
5. Elders S. J. Norris and W. M. Dorris preached in the afternoon.
6. Called for correspondence from Sister Associations: Sammie Norris, William Dorris and B. F. Beel, of Hopewell came forward and was greeted by the Moderator.
7. A committee was appointed on preaching as follows: Alfred Jones, A. B. Coleman, G. L. Hollingsworth, L. E. Jones, A. D. Massingill, John Strickland and N. Canterbury.
8. Called for Bill of Arrangement. Adopted a minute of last year.
9. Appointed Committee on Finance: A. B. Coleman and W. Canterbury.
10. Appointed Committee of Arrangements: J. R. Strickland and M. C. Hollingsworth.
11. Appointed Elder M. C. Hollingsworth to write Corresponding Letter.
12. Arranged for the next Union Meeting to be held at Pilgrim Rest

church on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1900.

13. Appointed the next convening of this body to be held at Salem church, Pickens county, on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1900.

SECOND DAY.

14. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder M. C. Hollingsworth.
15. Called upon the Committee on Preaching; W. M. Dorris preached first, followed by Elder J. C. Nabors, and Elders J. M. Carver, and S. Norris in the afternoon.
16. Returned Correspondence: Little Hope—Elder M. C. Hollingsworth, J. Strickland, Green Carver and N. Canterbury. Buttie-hatchie—Green Carver, A. Jones and Elder J. M. Carver. Hopewell—Green Carver and Elder J. C. Nabors.
17. The Finance Committee, on being called, reported \$15.35.
18. Called for Circular Letter; letter handed in, read and adopted, ordered to be annexed to these Minutes.
19. Proceeded to elect a Brother to preach the next Introductory sermon, and one to write Circular Letter: Elder J. C. Nabors to preach Introductory Sermon and Elder J. M. Carver to write Circular Letter.
20. Appointed Brothers W. M. Dorris and J. M. Carver to fill the stand on Sunday.
21. Opened door for promiscuous business, and agreed that obituary of Elder A. J. Coleman be printed in these minutes.
22. The clerk was appointed treasurer with instructions to have 400 copies of these minutes printed, and reserve the usual amount for correspondence.
23. Elder M. C. Hollingsworth returned thanks to the community for the kindness shown them while with them.

J. C. NABORS, Moderator,
F. J. GOODMAN, Clerk

This Association is blessed with five young Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, and we have been refreshed by their preaching "Salvation by Grace, through Faith, and that not of your selves, it's the gift of God, and not of Works, least any man should boast."—Clerk.

Corresponding Letter.

{ Pilgrim Rest Primitive Baptist Association, now in session with Serepta
 { Church, Greene County, Ala.

To The Associations with whom we Correspond, Greetings:—We are progressing in business in our usual way; peace fellowship and love abounds with us. We are glad to note that there is some ingathering in our churches. We gladly receive your messengers and gladly reciprocate the same. May God bless us all to come off more than conquerors, through Him that loved us and gave Himself for us.

J. C. NABORS, Moderator.

F. J. GOODMAN, Clerk.

In Memory of Elder A. J. Coleman.

A. J. COLEMAN was born in Abbeville, South Carolina, January 10, 1814, was married to Mary A. Smith on July 9th, 1835. He departed this life September 19th, 1899.

Surely a great man has gone; we trust, to reap his great reward. His labors are all o'er. Brother Coleman has been preaching the gospel of Christ, to the comfort of God's dear spiritual children for 57 years. Few men have preached as long as Brother Coleman, and having nothing in view but the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and the up-building of his cause in this world. Brother Coleman was instrumental in building up several large churches, but, alas! He is gone. No more can we hear his warning voice, no more to hear the friendly admonitions. But while the Pilgrim Rest Association realizes a great loss, yet we bow in humble submission to our Lord and Master, for we realize that our loss is his eternal gain.—Written by J. M. Carver.

Circular Letter.

And be ye kind, one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you.—Ephes. 4, 32.

This precious exhortation of the inspired apostle to the saints which were at Ephesus, and to all the faithful in Christ Jesus, is a safe and delightful rule for the government of God's people, in their intercourse with each other, in their relationship as members of His church, and in the secular affairs of life. Jesus was a most perfect example for his followers in this respect, displaying on all occasions and in the most solemn manner the principles of love and kindness, and generous forgiveness: His public discourses, His social commun-

ion, His pleading prayers, were all the overflowings of Love Divine, and the manifestations of kindness and compassion. Not alone the breathing of His lips, but the labor of His hands; the steps of His hallowed feet; the life He lived, and the death He died all were sacredly characterized by the spirit of kindness, tender-heartedness and forgiveness. Notice how He taught His disciples to pray directing them to adore and hallow the name of their God, to ask for the coming of his kingdom, for his will to be done on earth, and for the supply of this day's bread; and then came the humble, fervent petition: "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Let its full force bear upon our minds that we may not think lightly of its importance. Will the forgiveness we extend to others be sufficient for us? Look back at the train of errors. See how the long dark list entangles about us, from which there would be no escape but for the mercy of God in Christ displayed in our unmerited forgiveness. Our cold indifference, our unfeeling hearts, our wandering desires, our languid zeal, our sickly love, our stammering lips, our barren minds, our slothful hands and sluggish feet, coupled with acts of rebellion and wrong deeds render even our preservation and temporal blessings an astonishing wonder, and then our greed and selfishness, our love for the world and its imaginary riches, our strivings for honor and personal ease, our neglect of the poor, and the malice we harbor in our bosoms against our fellow creatures. Do we not seem a miracle of mercy, when we remember all this how much is forgiven us, if we are forgiven now just as we may have forgiven we must forever perish. And just as we beg for it, though we don't deserve it, so should we forgive others. M. C. HOLLINGSWORTH.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	Sub. Meeting	Baptised	Read by letter	Dismissed	Restored	Dead	Total	Contributions
Cottdale	T. J. Milander	Cottdale	4					5	5	60
Liberty	M. C. Hollingsworth	Gordo	4	3	2			55	5	00
Pilgrim Rest	M. C. Hollingsworth	Sapps	1				1	13	1	50
Mt. Pleasant	J. C. Nabors	Northport	1			3		14	2	50
Salem	J. M. Carver	Byars	2	3				9	1	50
Oak Grove		Stone						5	1	00
Bethany		Bethany						1		25
Sarepta	G. W. Stewart	Lewiston	2					25	3	00

NAMES OF DELEGATES.

Cottdale—Letter.
 Liberty—G. Carver, C. Hollingsworth, J. Strickland.
 Pilgrim Rest—J. N. Blanton, A. B. Coleman, F. J. Coodman.
 Mt. Pleasant—J. C. Nabors, N. Canterbury.
 Salem—G. L. Hollingsworth, J. Buckhalter.
 Oak Grove—A. D. Massingill.
 Bethany—A. Jones.
 Sarepta—L. E. Jones, J. Scarbrough, Wm. Jones.



